

# NOAA FISHERIES NORTHEAST REGION

## COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM - INDUSTRY BASED SURVEY

### Partnership:

The Industry Based Survey (IBS) is a partnership between NOAA Fisheries; four New England states (Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island); and the fishing industry to collect data pertinent to Gulf of Maine cod and Southern New England yellowtail flounder stocks. The purpose of this program is for the fishing industry to assist in providing higher-resolution data in near-shore areas.

### Background:

In 2000, Congress allocated \$15 million to NOAA Fisheries as a portion of the New England groundfish disaster relief funds to be used for cooperative research efforts. In initiating this effort, the Northeast Regional Office, the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, and the New England



*FIV Lisa Ann II, owned and operated by Jim Ford, sails out of Gloucester, MA. They have participated on all 5 legs of Industry-Based Survey for Gulf of Maine cod and are responsible for surveying southern Maine to the Cape Ann portion of the survey which includes Jefferies bank.*

Fishery Management Council identified the need for an industry based commercial fishing vessel fleet that would conduct quality research under an industry based survey. Currently, 6 vessels participate in the fleet from Cundy's Harbor, Maine to Rhode Island.

### Goal:

The surveys provide supplemental information to the NMFS trawl survey and are focused on different species-specific objectives rather than more broad-based objectives. Specifically, IBS determines the spatial and temporal distribution

patterns of key resource species to inform the design, implementation and evaluation (pre/during/post) of management measures to protect these species in meeting fishery management goals.



*FIV Jocka, owned by Terry Alexander and operated by Steven York, sails out of Cundy's Harbor, ME. They have participated in all 5 legs of Industry-Based Survey for Gulf of Maine cod and are responsible for surveying the Down East portion of the survey which ranges from Port Clyde to Machias Bay.*



*FIV Lady Jane, owned and operated by Russell Sherman, sails out of Gloucester, MA. They have surveyed on all 5 legs of Industry-Based Survey for Gulf of Maine cod and are responsible for surveying from Cape Ann to Chatham, MA including Cape Cod Bay and Stellwagen Bank.*

designed industry based surveys. These surveys are used to obtain fine-scale information on distribution and demographics of key fish stocks. In addition, program partnerships have been established to promote an understanding among scientists



*FIV Mary Elena, owner/captain Scott Westcott out of Point Judith. Completed 3 cruises to date, spring '03, fall '03 and spring '04 for a total of 450 tows. Conducted pair trawl work to address selectivity in spring '04.*



*FIV Titan, owned by Mike Love and operated by Manley Doughty, sails out of Portland, ME. They have surveyed on all 5 legs of Industry-Based Survey for Gulf of Maine cod. They are responsible for surveying mid-coast Maine and the off shore banks portion of the survey which ranges from Port Clyde to Cape Elizabeth including Cashes, Northern Jefferies, Platts, and Pippennies Bank.*

and the fishing industry by joining traditional knowledge of fishermen and scientific expertise. Ultimately, there has been an increase in public understanding of the benefits and success of cooperative research between industry, scientists, and managers working together to sustain the fisheries.



Photo credit: MA DMF



*FIV Heather Lynn, owner/captains Steven Follett and Captain Kevin Jones out of Point Judith, RI. Completed 3 cruises to date, spring '03, fall '03 and spring '04 for a total of 450 tows. Also assisted in 5 days of yellowtail tagging at the completion of the fall '03 cruise.*

### Objectives:

The IBS program expands data collection for fisheries management in the Northeast through the use of scientifically